

**OPINION 2126 (Case 3265)**

***Lathrobium geminum* Kraatz, 1857 (Insecta, Coleoptera): given precedence over *L. volgense* Hochhuth, 1851 and *L. boreale* Hochhuth, 1851; *L. volgense*: given precedence over *L. boreale***

**Abstract.** The Commission has ruled that the widely used rove beetle name *Lathrobium geminum* Kraatz, 1857 is given precedence over the less well used, but senior, names *L. boreale* Hochhuth, 1851 and *L. volgense* Hochhuth, 1851, whenever it and either of the senior names are considered to be synonyms and that *L. volgense* is given precedence over the less well used, but senior, name *L. boreale*, whenever the two are considered to be synonyms.

**Keywords.** Nomenclature; taxonomy; Coleoptera; STAPHYLINIDAE; *Lathrobium boreale*; *Lathrobium volgense*; *Lathrobium geminum*; rove beetles.

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**Ruling**

- (1) Under the plenary power it is hereby ruled that:
  - (a) the name *geminum* Kraatz, 1857, as published in the binomen *Lathrobium geminum*, is given precedence over the name *boreale* Hochhuth, 1851, as published in the binomen *Lathrobium boreale*, and the name *volgense* Hochhuth, 1851, as published in the binomen *Lathrobium volgense*, whenever it and either of the others are considered to be synonyms;
  - (b) the name *volgense* Hochhuth, 1851, as published in the binomen *Lathrobium volgense*, is given precedence over the name *boreale* Hochhuth, 1851, as published in the binomen *Lathrobium boreale*, whenever the two are considered to be synonyms.
- (2) The following names are hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology:
  - (a) *geminum* Kraatz, 1857, as published in the binomen *Lathrobium geminum*, with the endorsement that it is to be given precedence over the name *boreale* Hochhuth, 1851, as published in the binomen *Lathrobium boreale*, and the name *volgense* Hochhuth, 1851, as published in the binomen *Lathrobium volgense*, whenever it and either of the others are considered to be synonyms.
  - (b) *volgense* Hochhuth, 1851, as published in the binomen *Lathrobium volgense*, with the endorsement that it is to be given precedence over the name *boreale* Hochhuth, 1851, as published in the binomen *Lathrobium boreale*, whenever the two are considered to be synonyms and that it is not to be given priority over *geminum* Kraatz, 1857, as published in the binomen *Lathrobium geminum*, whenever the two are considered to be synonyms;
  - (c) *boreale* Hochhuth, 1851, as published in the binomen *Lathrobium boreale*, with the endorsement that it is not to be given priority over the names *geminum* Kraatz, 1857, as published in the binomen *Lathrobium geminum*, and *volgense* Hochhuth, 1851, as published in the binomen *Lathrobium*

*volgense*, whenever it and either of the others are considered to be synonyms.

- (3) The name *bicolor* Heer, 1839, as published in the binomen *Lathrobium bicolor* (a junior homonym of *Lathrobium bicolor* Gravenhorst, 1802), is hereby placed on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology.

### History of Case 3265

An application to stabilize the widespread usage of the name *Lathrobium geminum* Kraatz, 1857 for a rove beetle (family STAPHYLINIDAE) by giving it precedence over its supposed synonyms *L. boreale* Hochhuth, 1851 and *L. volgense* Hochhuth, 1851 was received from Lee H. Herman (*American Museum of Natural History, New York, N.Y. 10024-5192, U.S.A.*) on 14 January 2003. After correspondence the case was published in BZN 61: 25–28 (March 2004). The title, abstract and keywords of the case were published on the Commission's website. No comments on this case were received.

### Decision of the Commission

On 1 March 2005 the members of the Commission were invited to vote on the proposals published in BZN 61: 26–27. At the close of the voting period on 1 June 2005 the votes were as follows:

Affirmative votes — 12: Alonso-Zarazaga, Bock, Brothers, Fortey, Halliday, Lamas, Macpherson, Mahnert, Mawatari, Nielsen, Papp and Patterson.

Negative votes — 6: Calder, Kerzhner, Minelli, Rosenberg, Štys and van Tol.  
Bouchet abstained.

No votes were received from Böhme, Ng and Song.

Voting against, Kerzhner commented that priority should be maintained. Also voting against, Štys commented that 'the suggested hierarchy of precedence would be confusing for all future taxonomists dealing with the species involved, particularly for those not fully aware of its nomenclatural history. No type specimens were mentioned in the application and therefore their importance to the case could not be established. Strict priority should be maintained'.

Abstaining, Bouchet commented that 'the application contains no information on the name-bearing types of the various names involved, so we have no assurance whether the nomenclatural decisions requested are/are not or will/will not be supported by the types'.

### Original references

The following are the original references to the names placed on an Official List and an Official Index by the ruling given in the present Opinion:

*bicolor*, *Lathrobium*, Heer, 1839, *Fauna Coleopterorum Helvetica*, vol. 1, pt. 2, p. 240.

*boreale*, *Lathrobium*, Hochhuth, 1851, *Bulletin de la Société Impériale des Naturalistes de Moscou*, 24(2)(3): 41.

*geminum*, *Lathrobium*, Kraatz, 1857, *Naturgeschichte der Insecten Deutschlands. Abt. 1. Coleoptera*. Zweiter Band. Lief. 3–4, p. 673.

*volgense*, *Lathrobium*, Hochhuth, 1851, *Bulletin de la Société Impériale des Naturalistes de Moscou*, 24(2)(3): 42.